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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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L A T E C A B L E S . . .

Argentine decree prohibiting wheat and flour exports (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 13, 1937) canceled as of November 18, 1937. (Agricultural Attaché P. O. Nyhus, Buenos Aires.)

London wool sales continue with general tone of market more active than at opening on November 16. Compared with closing of preceding series of sales on September 24, prices were 20 percent lower for both greasy and scoured merinos, 25 percent lower for fine greasy crossbreds, 20 to 25 percent lower for medium greasy crossbreds, and 25 percent lower for all slipes except fine sheep slipes, which were 30 percent lower. No low greasy crossbreds offered. Merinos were bought chiefly by France, Switzerland, Austria, and Yorkshire; crossbreds by France and Yorkshire; slipes by Yorkshire. (Agricultural Attaché C. C. Taylor, London.)

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GRAINS

Current estimates of bread-grain production

Revisions of wheat production estimates for 1937-38 have reduced the total crop of 44 countries reported to 3,672,773,000 bushels. This compares with 3,404,582,000 bushels harvested by the same countries in 1936-37. Indications point to larger crops in central Europe than were previously expected, but some decrease is noted in the Danube Basin estimates. Both the Canadian and Mexican estimates have been reduced, while frost damage in Argentina makes for considerable uncertainty as to the Southern Hemisphere crop.

Current changes in 1937-38 wheat production estimates

Country	Reported up to	Reported up to	1936-37
	Oct. 23, 1937	Nov. 25, 1937	
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
44 countries reported....	3,687,068		
Canada.....	188,191	182,505	229,218
Mexico.....	12,949	11,216	13,606
Italy.....	294,305	296,010	224,560
Spain.....	147,000	135,000	121,492
Germany.....	157,886	161,193	162,660
Poland.....	65,771	67,608	78,357
Czechoslovakia.....	49,596	51,257	55,583
Greece.....	33,977	32,738	19,537
Netherlands.....	12,860	12,970	15,575
Austria.....	14,852	14,470	14,040
Latvia.....	6,376	6,737	5,272
Estonia.....	2,895	2,774	2,433
Bulgaria.....	64,233	56,492	59,304
Hungary.....	70,231	69,994	87,789
Algeria.....	34,362	33,995	29,774
Syria and Lebanon.....	13,962	17,192	15,704
Australia.....	a/ 155,000	163,000	150,106
Argentina.....	b/ 205,000	b/ 200,000	249,193
44 countries reported....		3,672,773	3,404,582

a/ Unofficial. b/ Estimate of the Buenos Aires office, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The most recent estimate tentatively allows for a loss of 30,000,000 bushels by frost damage.

The 1937 rye crop now appears considerably larger than earlier estimates indicated. The total reported for 28 countries, at 891,990,000 bushels, is slightly larger than the 1936 production of these countries placed at 890,713,000 bushels. Most of the increase may be attributed to larger estimates recently received for Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Current changes in 1937 rye production estimates

Country	Reported up to	Reported up to	1936
	Oct. 30, 1937	Nov. 25, 1937	
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
27 countries reported.....	880,654		
Canada.....	6,038	5,749	4,281
Austria.....	17,038	16,830	18,609
Czechoslovakia.....	56,975	58,461	56,548
Poland.....	219,283	229,515	250,536
Sweden.....	17,125	16,984	13,891
Netherlands.....	18,149	19,526	19,059
Latvia.....	16,201	16,479	11,260
Estonia.....	8,015	8,161	6,044
Bulgaria.....	9,778	8,293	7,980
Hungary.....	24,323	24,222	28,114
Algeria.....		41	29
28 countries reported.....		891,990	890,713

Canadian fall sowings reduced

The first estimates of fall sowings of grains in Canada for harvest in 1938 show marked declines from the areas sown last season, it was reported by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at Ottawa. The acreage sown to fall wheat is estimated at 690,000 acres as against 781,000 acres sown last season, a decrease of 12 percent. The condition of the crop on October 31 was estimated at 93 percent of the long-time average yield per acre as compared with 107 percent on the corresponding date of 1936. Sowings of fall rye are estimated at 517,000 acres, a reduction of 35 percent from the 799,000 acres sown in the fall of 1936. The condition figures were reported at 84 and 76 percent, respectively, for 1937 and 1936. Fall plowing for 1938 crops amounted to 45 percent on October 31 as against 46 percent reported on the corresponding date of 1936.

Germany simplifies tariffs on grains

The German Government, in a decree of September 24, 1937, made a number of changes in tariff provisions relating to the importation of grains, legumes, and potatoes, it was reported by the Berlin office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. Among these changes was the abolition of the old import-certificate scheme, which was of considerable importance prior to and following the World War. It was an ingenious device whereby exports were permitted from surplus grain-producing areas, such as East Prussia, while imports of foreign grain into deficit areas were allowed either free of duty or at a reduced rate. The importer was required to show an import certificate stating that an equal quantity of grain, or grain equivalent, had been exported from Germany during a certain

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period of time. It was primarily an attempt to offset the difficulty of maintaining prices in eastern surplus regions, from which a long and costly freight haul was necessary in order to supply the markets of deficit areas in western Germany. Under the complicated grain regulations of recent years, the scheme had fallen into disuse.

Another change noted applied to the authority given the responsible government organization usually the Reich Grain Office, to import grain at a nominal duty of 1 Reichsmark per 100 kilograms (about .18 cent per pound). Previously this duty was limited to certain periods of time, but now grain may be imported at this rate indefinitely. The basic duties on grains remain unchanged, however, at 20 Reichsmarks per 100 kilograms for rye, (about \$2.05 per bushel at current rate of exchange), 35 Reichsmarks for wheat (\$3.85 per bushel), 18 and 20 Reichsmarks (\$1.58 and \$1.76), respectively, for feeding and other barley, and 16 Reichsmarks per 100 kilograms (\$0.94 per bushel) for oats.

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FRUIT, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

Record apple crop in Germany

The deciduous fruit crops in Germany this year are near record proportions, according to Loyd V. Steere, Agricultural Attaché at Berlin. The outstanding feature of the 1937 crop is the extraordinary yield of apples. The crop is expected to reach 86,000,000 bushels, or about 20 percent more than the previous record crop of 72,000,000 bushels produced in 1934 and twice the average crop for the 4-year period, 1933-1936. The pear crop of 20,260,000 bushels is slightly below average. Good crops of cherries and peaches also were harvested. The plum crop was a little below average.

Not only is the fruit crop large but the quality is above average. All fruits were of better quality except plums and prunes. The high quality of this year's crops is due, in part, to increasing care given the trees, but chiefly to a very favorable growing season. The commercial apple crop is expected to be close to 29,000,000 bushels against 6,900,000 bushels in 1936-37. About 21,000,000 bushels of apples will be used by the processing industries and the balance used on the farms.

Despite the large apple crop, considerable imports will occur. Treaty obligations with surrounding countries will require Germany to take considerable quantities of apples. Imports during August and September exceeded those of the same months in 1936. Treaty obligations with Canada, Chile, and New Zealand will probably necessitate taking some apples from these countries in the spring months. There will be little outlet, however, for any foreign apples other than those of the highest quality.

Limited shipment of grapes from South Africa

The South African Fruit Exchange plans to export about 70,000 boxes (10 pounds net) of grapes to the United States in 1938, according to a communication from the American Consulate General at Capetown. First shipments will leave Capetown in January. The transport of grapes is at present largely governed by the limited shipping facilities available. In order to enter the United States, the grapes must have been precooled and held in transit at certain temperatures. No ships on the direct run from Capetown to New York are suitably equipped at present but by 1939 it is believed such vessels will be available.

Exports of blueberries from Newfoundland increase

Exports of blueberries from Newfoundland to the United States from the opening of the season August 14 to October 31 amounted to 4,792,939 pounds, an increase of over 1,100,000 pounds, as compared with the corresponding period of 1936, writes Vice Consul Charles C. Sundell at St. Johns.

Lighter supplies of winter oranges in Europe

Indications point to lighter supplies of winter oranges in Europe this season, November to April, according to an item in the Weekly Fruit Intelligence Notes of the Imperial Economic Committee (London). Exports from Palestine, Spain, and Italy are expected to be below those of last season. The production in Cyprus is expected to be about equal to 1936-37. The mandarine crop is expected to exceed that of last year in Italy but oranges are said to be light.

Palestine exports of oranges and grapefruit

Approximately 8,500,000 boxes of oranges and 1,500,000 boxes of grapefruit are expected to be moved into export from Palestine this season compared with 9,500,000 boxes of oranges and 1,540,000 boxes of grapefruit in 1936-37, as reported in the Weekly Fruit Intelligence Notes of the Imperial Economic Committee. Weather during September was favorable for citrus fruits. Irrigation was being continued in the groves but fertilizing was being conducted only on a small scale. There were signs of serious red scale development in the south. Regular maturity tests of grapefruit are being made this season.

Plantings of cucumbers smaller in Cuba

Unofficial estimates indicate that the plantings of cucumbers on the Isle of Pines, Cuba, will be about 500 acres compared with 600 acres planted to cucumbers in 1936, reports Harold S. Tewell, American consul at Habana, Cuba. Although the acreage is smaller this year, favorable weather may result in a larger harvest than last season when

53,456 crates were exported to the United States. First shipments were expected to go forward the last part of November.

LIVESTOCK, MEATS, AND WOOL

German hog numbers decline

The German hog census as of September 4, 1937, shows considerable decline from figures of a year earlier, according to cabled advice from H. E. Reed, Bureau of Agricultural Economics livestock specialist at Berlin. The total, at 25,393,000, was 2.4 percent below the September 1936 total. The sharpest decline occurred in breeding sow numbers, which were lower than they have been for a number of years, although the total number of hogs is higher than in any other recent year except 1936.

HOGS: Numbers in Germany, by age groups, 1930-1937

Sept. a/	Under 8 weeks	8 weeks to 6 months	6 months to 1 year		Over 1 year		Total
	Thousands	Thousands	Sows Thousands	Total Thousands	Sows Thousands	Total Thousands	
1930.	6,522	9,809	1,253	5,125	2,327	1,967	23,423
1931.	6,804	10,930	569	5,391	1,661	2,173	25,348
1932.	6,326	10,341	517	5,435	1,559	2,075	24,175
1934.	6,348	10,594	470	6,072	1,483	2,033	25,047
1935.	5,851	9,634	529	5,269	1,410	1,880	22,684
1936.	6,649	11,100	578	6,229	1,589	2,029	26,007
1937.	5,803	11,051	380	6,202	1,421	1,873	b/25,393

a/September 1933 not available. b/ Includes 464 bears.

Premiums are again being offered for hogs of heavy slaughter weights in Germany. The premium on hogs weighing more than 300 pounds over those weighing less than 200 pounds amounts to approximately 2.2 cents per pound. The reestablishment of premiums for heavy hogs reflects the more favorable feedstuff situation this year compared with last. The 1936 feed crops were so inadequate that all inducements through price premiums to feed to heavy weights were removed. All feed-grain, potato, and beet crops this year are substantially above those of a year ago, whereas hog numbers have declined.

The fixed basic price for hogs has been raised for the coming year from Rm. 47.50 per 50 kilograms to Rm. 48.50 (from \$17.41 per 100 pounds to \$17.77). Seasonal price variations to encourage carrying hogs through the winter and maintaining steady slaughter during the summer are retained. The slaughter supply appears adequate for the next several months, but there is prospect of some shortage later. Meat prices have not been raised, but there have been certain restrictions placed on the quantity of pork which may be used for sausage making.

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WHEAT: Closing Saturday prices of December futures

Date	Chicago		Kansas City		Minneapolis		Winnipeg a/		Liverpool a/		Buenos Aires b/	
	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
High c/.	118	108	115	104	131	116	113	127	125	136	101	a/152
Low c/..	113	86	110	83	126	93	105	107	116	119	91	a/108
Oct. 30.	114	97	111	95	128	105	106	113	119	128	93	113
Nov. 6.	115	86	113	83	129	93	106	107	116	122	91	108
13.	117	92	113	90	130	102	106	116	118	125	92	108
20.	118	93	114	91	131	100	106	115	118	119	93	108

a/ Conversions at noon buying rate of exchange. b/ Prices are of day previous to other prices. c/ Oct. 1 to date. d/ Oct. and Nov. futures.

WHEAT: Weekly weighted average cash price at stated markets

Week ended	All classes and grades six markets		No. 2 Hard Winter Kansas City		No. 1 Dk. N. Spring Minneapolis		No. 2 Hard Amber Durum Minneapolis		No. 2 Red Winter St. Louis		Western White Seattle a/	
	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
High b/.	132	110	125	111	150	133	157	110	124	112	99	95
Low b/..	127	91	120	92	144	116	143	98	118	93	96	82
Oct. 30.	129	100	120	102	149	123	156	107	118	101	99	89
Nov. 6.	127	94	121	96	149	116	155	99	122	94	-	85
13.	129	91	121	92	144	116	153	98	121	86	-	82
20.	127	95	123	95	144	118	143	102	124	93	-	-

a/ Weekly average of daily cash quotations, basis No. 1 sacked. b/ Oct. 1 to date.

GREECE: Production of specified crops, 1932-1937

Year	Wheat	Corn	Potatoes	Tobacco
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 pounds
1932.....	17,067	8,406	3,109	64,497
1933.....	28,385	10,760	4,155	120,985
1934.....	25,679	8,266	3,977	92,108
1935.....	27,180	7,538	3,827	101,549
1936.....	19,537	9,019	4,740	178,506
1937 a/.....	32,738	9,094	b/ 2,351	141,094

International Institute of Agriculture, Rome. a/ Preliminary. b/ Early crop.

FEED GRAINS AND RYE: Weekly average price per bushel of corn, rye, oats, and barley at leading markets a/

Week ended	Corn				Rye				Oats		Barley	
	Chicago		Buenos Aires		Minneapolis		Chicago		Minneapolis			
	No. 3	Futures	Futures	No. 2	No. 3	No. 2						
	Yellow				White							
	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937	1936	1937		
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	
High <u>b</u> /...	112	138	105	85	51	65	94	117	46	55	133	137
Low <u>b</u> /....	59	53	52	54	47	59	48	67	25	30	58	61
			<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>						
Oct. 23...	103	63	94	59	51	61	84	72	41	33	125	71
30...	106	58	95	58	50	65	85	73	42	32	130	75
Nov. 6...	104	55	98	57	48	63	86	69	45	32	125	72
13...	110	54	102	55	47	64	89	67	45	31	128	70
20...	108	53	105	54	47	64	94	70	46	32	127	72

a/ Cash prices are weighted averages of reported sales; future prices are simple averages of daily quotations. b/ For period January 1 to latest date shown.

FEED GRAINS: Movement from principal exporting countries

Commodity and country	Exports for year		Shipments 1937, week ended a/			Exports as far as reported		
	1935-36	1936-37	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	July 1 to	1936-37 b/	1937-38 b/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000
BARLEY, EXPORTS: c/	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels		bushels	bushels
United States....	9,886	5,153	160	225	664	Nov. 20	3,938	6,210
Canada.....	6,882	18,880				Sept. 30	6,524	2,959
Argentina.....	9,994	14,663	27	0	46	Nov. 20	3,147	652
Danube & U.S.S.R.	41,090	26,315	533	466	200	Nov. 20	16,814	13,227
Total.....	67,852	65,016					30,423	23,048
OATS, EXPORTS: c/								
United States....	1,429	912	36	181	0	Nov. 20	233	2,955
Canada.....	15,615	10,690				Sept. 30	3,870	1,998
Argentina.....	10,855	24,600	386	530	352	Nov. 20	3,886	5,796
Danube & U.S.S.R.	1,390	940	0	0	0	Nov. 20	300	160
Total.....	29,289	37,142					8,289	10,909
CORN, EXPORTS: d/						Nov. 1 to		
United States....	885	372	134	21	729	Nov. 20	1	884
Danube & U.S.S.R.	14,984	24,390	0	16	0	Nov. 20	749	16
Argentina.....	307,638	399,195	4,119	4,299	7,563	Nov. 20	26,506	15,981
South Africa....	8,913	30,519	1,437	1,225	2,108	Nov. 20	663	4,770
Total.....	332,420	454,476					27,919	21,651
United States imports.....	24,521	95,521						

Compiled from official and trade sources. a/ The weeks shown in these columns are nearest to the date shown. b/ Preliminary. c/ Year beginning July 1. d/ Year beginning November 1. e/ Eleven months.

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EXCHANGE RATES: Average weekly and monthly values in New York of specified currencies, November 20, 1937, with comparisons a/

Country	Monetary unit	Month					Week ended		
		1935	1936	1937			1937		
		Oct.	Oct.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Argentina..	Paper peso..	32.71	32.67	33.21	33.02	33.03	33.19	33.34	33.36
Canada.....	Dollar.....	98.58	100.02	99.98	99.98	100.02	100.03	100.05	100.09
China.....	Shang. yuan.	35.61	29.33	29.65	29.66	29.46	29.40	29.45	29.43
Denmark....	Krone.....	21.91	21.87	22.24	22.11	22.12	22.23	22.32	22.33
England....	Pound.....	490.78	489.34	498.22	495.30	495.51	498.03	500.06	500.34
France.....	Franc.....	6.59	4.67	3.75	3.52	3.35	3.38	3.40	3.40
Germany....	Reichsmark..	40.23	40.20	40.21	40.12	40.16	40.26	40.40	40.42
Italy.....	Lira.....	8.12	5.53	5.26	5.26	5.26	5.26	5.26	5.26
Japan.....	Yen.....	28.67	28.61	29.03	28.87	28.85	29.00	29.13	29.13
Mexico.....	Peso.....	27.76	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75	27.75
Netherlands.	Guilder.....	67.74	53.63	55.15	55.15	55.28	55.30	55.44	55.46
Norway.....	Krone.....	24.66	24.61	25.03	24.88	24.90	25.02	25.12	25.14
Sweden.....	Krona.....	25.30	25.25	25.68	25.33	25.55	25.67	25.78	25.79
Switzerland	Franc.....	32.53	22.99	22.96	22.97	23.02	23.16	23.16	23.15

Federal Reserve Board. a/ Noon buying rates for cable transfers.

WHEAT, INCLUDING FLOUR: Shipments from principal exporting countries, as given by current trade sources, 1935-36 to 1937-38

Country	Total shipments		Shipments 1937 week ended			Shipments a/ July 1-Nov. 20	
	1935-36	1936-37	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	1936	1937
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
North America b/.....	220,464	225,902	4,888	4,999	5,301	116,824	67,468
Canada, 4 markets c/....	246,199	194,531	3,046	3,147	-	124,488	42,916
United States d/.....	7,219	10,049	1,480	2,104	1,586	4,468	24,473
Argentina.....	73,312	164,678	216	0	1,012	22,728	14,904
Australia.....	110,576	105,836	1,764	1,892	929	26,572	25,697
U.S.S.R.....	29,024	88	3,600	2,120	1,832	19,032	24,704
Damube and Bulgaria e/	8,312	65,544	584	2,224	912	33,816	21,072
British India.....	d/	d/f/					
India.....	2,556	13,087	296	43	544	4,792	9,008
Total g/.....	449,244	575,135				223,764	162,853
Total European shipments a/.....	360,264	484,600	9,888			142,912	119,128
Total ex-European shipments a/.....	131,760	127,192	1,768			52,816	30,744

Compiled from official and trade sources. a/ Canadian shipments from July 1 to November 13. b/ Broomhall's Corn Trade News. c/ Fort William, Port Arthur, Vancouver, Prince Rupert, and New Westminster. d/ Official. e/ Black Sea shipments only. f/ Total of 10 months. g/ Total of trade figures includes North America as reported by Broomhall. h/ To November 6.

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